

# CARLSBAD AVENUES

## Let's talk about TRAILS

**T**rails have been part of the City's planning efforts since 1973. This focus reflects citizens' and the City Council's overwhelming insistence upon trails and other open space as vital elements in maintaining Carlsbad's character and enhancing residents' quality of life. Based on public input, enthusiasm and support, City Council members approved the comprehensive, forward-looking Citywide Trails Program Report in November 2001.

The Carlsbad Citywide Trails Program is "a multi-use recreation and circulation system, providing varied and attractive routes for pedestrians, as well as mountain and family bicyclists ... joggers and speed walkers, wheelchair users, skaters, and possibly new types of non-motorized recreation."

### Trails are indigenous and ubiquitous

Long before there were roads in Carlsbad, there were trails. In fact, trails predate the settlement of Carlsbad by hundreds of years, going back to centuries-old footpaths forged by Native Americans, the area's original inhabitants.

A journal written by members of Spain's 1769 *Sacred Expedition* mentions traveling over a good road, a road that probably began as a trail and later became El Camino Real. The process of creating trails "from scratch" came full circle in 1999 when some 130 volunteers wielding hand tools constructed the first 1.5 miles of the Hosp Grove Trail.

Today, the City of Carlsbad is planning and implementing an exciting, 158-mile pedestrian and circulation system that offers an abundance of versatility, 68 miles of which will be unpaved recreational trails in open space areas.

- Along with outdoor exercise, the system will provide an opportunity to view and experience Carlsbad's many areas of natural beauty, including the coastline, lagoons and canyons.



"One perk of my job is getting to explore all of these trails," confides Park Planner Liz Ketabian, who shares this photo of the Batiquitos Lagoon Trail. "There are so many nice trails, it's hard to pick out only one favorite. The Salt Marsh trail (off Hummingbird Road in Aviara – see #1147 in the Thomas Brothers Guide) has a nice little bench near an oak tree. Not far from that trail is the primitive Blacksage trail. The view is fantastic: you can see all the way to San Marcos and to the lagoons."

- To encourage non-vehicular transportation alternatives, an extensive web of trails will connect parks, open spaces, beaches, homes and business areas.
- Volunteer and grant opportunities are being explored to create and maintain many trails.
- Trails will run the gamut from minimally improved dirt paths to paved trails to sidewalks.
- The multi-use recreation and circulation system will provide varied and attractive routes for folks on foot and (non-motorized) wheels, and for leashed four-footed friends (don't forget to clean up after them!).

### Citywide Trails Inventory

QUAD	TRAIL NAME	LENGTH (MILES)
NW	Hosp Grove	3.0
NW	Sea Wall	.7
NW	Cove Drive area	.3
NW	Hidden Valley/Legoland	.5
NE	Hidden Canyon Park	.25
NE	College Avenue	1.0
SE	Rancho Carrillo	4.0
SW	La Costa Glen	1.5
SW	Poinsettia Lane	.75
SW	Aviara	6.0
SE	La Costa Valley	1.8
SE	La Costa Valley	1.0
SE	Villagio	.4
SE	Arroyo Vista	.5
Total		21.7



*Informed Involvement Is Our Goal.*

AVENUES publications are created by the City of Carlsbad to communicate why things are the way they are today ... and to explain how you can help direct their progress in the future.

## 2001: Citywide Trails Program Report

"Carlsbad citizens have clearly communicated their desire for nature trails and jogging and walking paths.

This proposal represents an opportunity to show our citizens that we are listening to their priorities and ready to delivery a quality Citywide Trails Program."

## Fall 2002: Moving Along

The City's trails team works with developers and homeowners' associations to get new trails built as development occurs and to open currently private trails to the public.

Rancho Carrillo trail, near Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, is an example of a privately built trail and will be one of the first Citywide trails opened to the public in the southeast quadrant in August 2003.

## Fall 2004: Current Public Trails

Current public trails available for hiking include: Hosp Grove, Cove Drive area, Hidden Valley, Hidden Canyon Park, Rancho Carrillo, La Costa Glen, Aviara, La Costa Valley, Villagio, Arroyo Vista.

## Unique trails and trail opportunities

- **Circulation Element Trails** are intended to supplement roads, enabling pedestrians and bicyclists to travel around the city. They provide alternative transportation methods to the automobile. Like the roadway system, these trails are destination-oriented. They may be in place of or in addition to sidewalks. Eventually, there will be 90 miles of circulation element bike lanes and trails, including sidewalks.
- **Recreation Trails**, as the name implies, are not destination-oriented but recreational in nature. Actually, nature is the "destination" and reason-for-being of these mostly unpaved trails. Eventually, there will be 68 miles of recreational trails, most of which will be built as part of private development.

## Putting the pedal to the medal

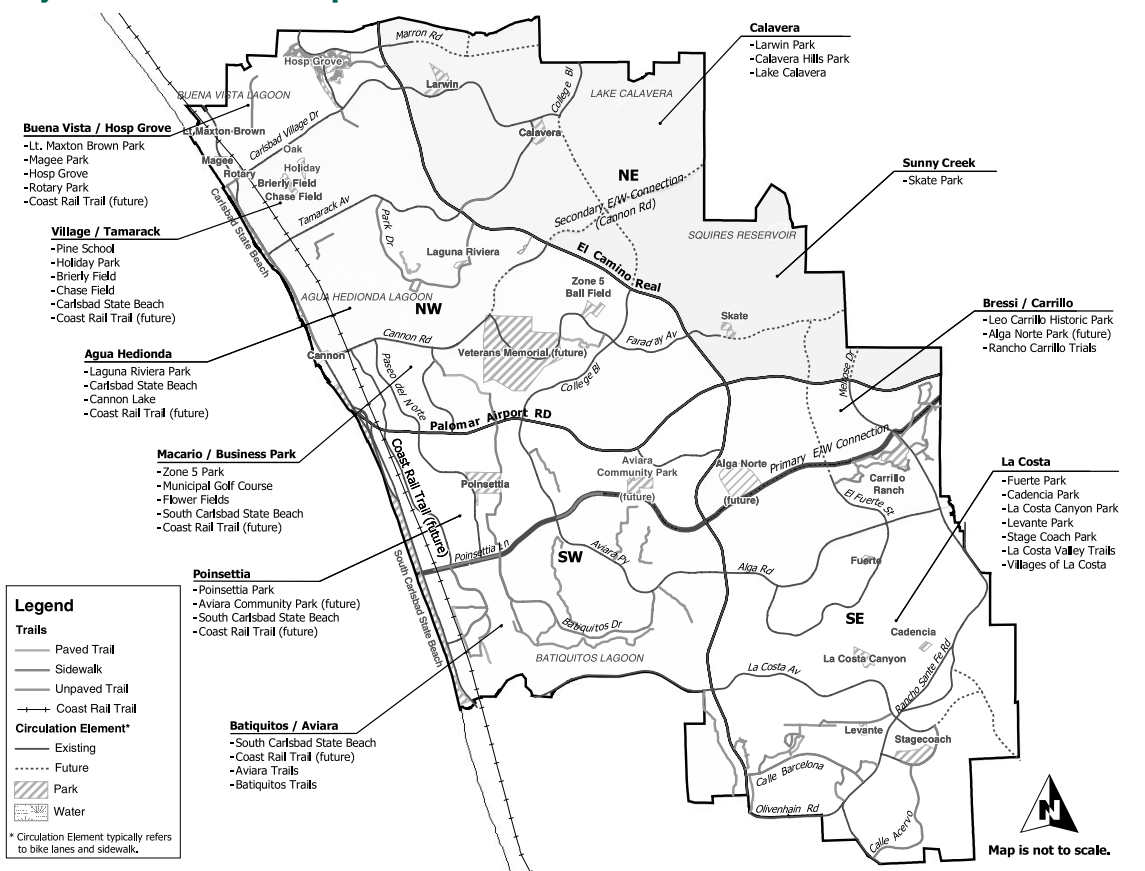
Lauded by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) as an example of smart growth, the Coastal Rail Trail will be a new kind of "free" way; a non-motorized multi-purpose paved path going from Oceanside to San Diego along the railroad right of way.



**Developers help "foot" the bill for trails. As part of the Growth Management Plan, developers may be required to offer trail easements within their development as part of the citywide trail system as well as private "community" trails reserved for residents of the development.**



## Citywide Parks and Trails Map



## Calling all volunteers

"The success of the Carlsbad Citywide Trails Program will rely heavily upon the use of volunteers to build and maintain trails, restore native plants, create/distribute a newsletter and help us handle other tasks related to this major undertaking," explains Parks Supervisor Fred Burnell. "Everyone can help by keeping the trails free from litter," he says. Prospective volunteers can contact him at 434-2985 or Gary Hill at 603-4010.

## Further Information and Involvement

**If you would like further information on trails and related topics, we invite you to:**

- Contact Park Planner Liz Ketabian at 434-2978.
- Review a copy of the Citywide Trails Program Report available at the library and on the City's website at [www.ci.carlsbad.ca.us](http://www.ci.carlsbad.ca.us).
- AVENUES on Open Space and Growth Management are available on the website or by calling 434-2820.
- Call 434-2808 to sign up for the Carlsbad Citizens' Academy.

**If you would like to observe and/or participate in the planning process, we invite you to:**

- Attend a Planning Commission meeting, generally held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 6 pm in the Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive.
- Attend a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, generally held on the third Monday at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers.
- Learn about applying for membership on these or other volunteer advisory boards and commissions by calling the City Clerk at 434-2808.
- Attend a regularly scheduled City Council meeting, generally held on Tuesdays at 6 pm in the Council Chambers.
- Call 434-2820 to confirm above dates and times, to be placed on a mailing list for future AVENUES publications and to get more information on how you can help direct the avenues of your city's policies and programs.